

The updated BMW X3

Written by Jason (Neutral)

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In 2003 BMW launched the first X3, creating a whole new segment that spawned a host of new premium mid-sized Sports Activity Vehicles (SAVs). More than ten years and over one million global sales later, BMW Australia Group is announcing an update to the second generation BMW X3.

With new exterior styling, including a comprehensive refresh to the face of the car; more refinement and exclusive appointments to the interior; a new, more powerful and economical diesel powerplant and a revised equipment list with new options; the new BMW X3 will be sure to please.

According to Toni Andreevski, general manager of marketing for BMW Group Australia, the refreshed X3 offers the expected ultimate driving experience of a BMW SAV and combines this with a more powerful value proposition for the customer.

“The X3 has always been a very successful vehicle for the BMW Group, especially in Australia, and is recognised for its sparkling performance, style and functionality.

“These additional styling upgrades complement the vehicle’s dynamic on- and off-road capability, and the increased value – up to \$6,000 of extra standard equipment in some models – makes the X3 a more attractive proposition than ever before.

“The end result? The customer is the winner,” Andreevski said.

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Exterior styling on the new BMW X3 has been refreshed with a bolder and more striking interpretation of the iconic BMW kidney grille now extending all the way to the newly designed twin circular headlight units. Both the front and rear bumpers express powerful new designs with updated contour lines and features, and the LED side indicator lights are now housed in new exterior mirrors. The option of four new exterior paint colours, five new alloy wheel designs and full-LED headlight units further express the updated design of the new BMW X3.

The interior has similarly been enhanced and now boasts high-gloss black panels for the automatic climate control system, new cup holders in the centre console with sliding cover and four new interior trims including three new wood trim options with pearl-effect chrome highlights. Three new leather upholsteries featuring specific stitching and X embossment on the front seat headrests (standard for X3 xDrive28i and X3xDrive30d) are available in black, mocha and ivory white. A stainless steel finisher protecting the luggage compartment entry sill and a BMW xLine designation on the door sills are further refinements to the new BMW X3.

Also new for the updated X3 is the diesel powerplant in the X3 xDrive20d. The new generation all-aluminium 2.0 litre diesel engine uses common rail direct injection running at an increased pressure of 2,000 bar which, amongst other improvements, pushes the output to 140 kW and 400 Nm of torque, an increase of 5 kW and 20 Nm over the predecessor. This increased performance cuts the car's 0-100 km/h by 0.4 seconds to 8.1, whilst also returning improved fuel consumption figures and emissions of 5.2 l/100 km and 138 g/km.

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